

Peter and Judy Jackson Music Program

FULTON SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

A joint recital given by

Eric Gehl

PERCUSSIONIST

Benjamin Rodman

CELLIST

From the studio of
Eric Shuster and Dr. Jeffrey Schoyen

Accompanied by
Susan Zimmer, Pianist

Friday, April 28, 2023
Holloway Hall, Great Hall
7:30 p.m.

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY

Make Tomorrow Yours

PROGRAM

Lied Ohne Worte, Op. 109 (Song Without Words) Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Ben Rodman (Cello)
Susan Zimmer (Piano)

Better Tomorrow Dan Cullen (1958-) & Deryn Cullen (1977-)
Ben Rodman (Cello)
Susan Zimmer (Piano)

Space Is Lovely This Time of Year Eric Gehl (2001-) arr. Sophia Merbaum (2002-)
Sophia Merbaum (Soprano)
Trenelle Dashiell (Mezzo-Soprano)
Eric Gehl (Marimba)
Benjamin Rodman (Cello)

Afternoon in March Gene Koshinski (1980-)
Eric Gehl (Marimba)

Ilijas Nebojša Jovan Živković (1962-)
Eric Gehl (Marimba)

I'll Be Waiting Cian Ducrot (1997-)
Sophia Merbaum (Soprano)
Ella Cox (Piano)
Benjamin Rodman (Cello)
Eric Gehl (Marimba)

Adagio in G~Minor Tomaso Albinoni (1671-1751)
Ben Rodman (Cello)
Susan Zimmer (Piano)

Cello Sonata No. 5 Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)
I -Largo
II -Allegro
III -Largo
IV -Allegro
Ben Rodman (Cello)
Susan Zimmer (Piano)

Eric Gehl, Percussionist
Benjamin Rodman, Cellist | Junior Recital
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Romantica	Emmanuel Séjourné (1961-)
	Eric Gehl (Marimba)
Odessa.....	Matthew Lorick (1989-)
	Eric Gehl (Marimba)

BIOGRAPHIES

Benjamin Rodman (he/him) is a junior at Salisbury University studying music - Instrumental performance and theatre. He is a member of the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra at Salisbury University and studies the cello with Dr. Jeffrey Schoyen. In the 11 years that Benjamin has been playing the cello, he has performed with numerous local community, school orchestras and chamber ensembles, including the All Shore Orchestra and Salisbury Youth Orchestra. There are so many people that Ben would like to acknowledge for getting him where he is today. He thanks his mom and dad for being highly supportive of his desire to pursue music and theatre, and for the love and support from his siblings, Heather, Zachary and Jacob. He considers himself to be truly lucky to have gotten a chance to know so many amazing and extremely talented people and personally thanks each and every one of his friends who have left such a memorable impression on his life. Ben also thanks Susan Zimmer who has now performed with him for numerous recitals, performance classes and masterclasses over the years. The biggest thank you of all is reserved for Dr. Jeffrey Schoyen and his wife Dr. Sachiko Murasugi who have been instrumental in shaping the next chapter of Ben's musicianship journey. He is extremely grateful for all the time and energy that Dr. Schoyen, Dr. Murasugi, Eric Shuster, Colleen Clark and Suzanna Mallow have poured into making this recital possible. He thanks everyone who came out to support Eric and him tonight!

Eric Gehl (he/him) is a percussionist that will earn a B.A. in music - education. He was born and raised in Baltimore, MD. He attended Baltimore School for the Arts in high school where he studied under John Locke and played four years in the Orchestra, Choir and Wind Ensemble. Since coming to SU to study with Eric Shuster, he has performed in the Pops holiday concert, Chorale concerts and Jazz Band. He was also the drummer for Salisbury University's productions of *Mamma Mia!* and *Fun Home*, as well as *Godspell* at Asbury United Methodist Church and *All Together Now!* with Community Players. Eric has long been an ensemble player, but he is excited to put on his first half recital here at Salisbury University.

PROGRAM NOTES

Lied Ohne Worte, Op. 109 (Song Without Words): The first piece of this recital is a piece that was written by Romantic-era composer Felix Mendelssohn in 1845 and was his last work for cello and piano. The piece was written for French cellist Lisa Cristiani, who Mendelssohn had grown very fond of although the piece wasn't published until after his death in 1847. Cristiani was very well known during this time and was admired by many for being one of the earliest recorded instances of a woman becoming a professional performer on a civic concert stage. Mendelssohn's appreciation for Cristiani's prowess is apparent in the contrasting elegant and agitated phrases that showcase the full range of Cristiani's playing.

Better Tomorrow: Better Tomorrow is a piece that I stumbled across in middle school after hearing a recording of a professional cellist, Tina Guo, which made me begin to take music more seriously. I really like this piece because I feel that my passion for the cello is reflected in this piece. This piece has a more somber tone that is less common in modern compositions. The piece was composed by married couple Dan and Deryn Cullen in 2010 for an album going to one of their film music publishers. What I personally connected to with this piece was its ability to utilize a majority of the cello's range in a way that didn't sacrifice tone or expressiveness while featuring several large jumps that sound effortless but also beautiful.

Space Is Lovely This Time of Year: Composed by Eric Gehl for the Larum Voces concert, Sophia Merbaum has taken this arrangement and created a small ensemble version. This light and enjoyable section uses a simple form with pop-like melodies to take you into space. The whimsical piece has an A section, contrasting B section and closes with the same A section.

Afternoon in March: Afternoon in March is a two-mallet simple form composition that is in a book of compositions titled Two. This book was written to "rejuvenate the performance of two-mallet pieces." As the title suggests, the piece is written about an afternoon in March and reflects the beauty as well as unpredictable weather and storms that one day can have.

Ilijas: Ilijas is a rhapsodic composition, titled after a small town in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia. It has a clear association with folk tunes of the Balkan area, as well as mixed rhythms and tonal scales whose roots could be found even further east. In the introduction of the piece, Zivkovic calls for a very unusual marimba technique that produces sounds that remind us of a Franz Liszt grand piano sound. The middle part, however, uses typical marimbist patterns, masterly composed in a number of various odd meters with melody in the octaves played by the right hand. The varied repetition of the opening part leads for a moment in a major key, but after that short "light of hope," the music goes back to the melancholic mood and ends tranquil.

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I'll Be Waiting: This song is the newest song on the program, having been released in 2023 by Irish singer and songwriter Cian Ducrot on the popular social media platform TikTok. This was arranged by SU students Aubrie Crehan, Eric Gehl and Benjamin Rodman, and transposed from C-Sharp Major to D-Major. This was performed for a music major for a day event that allowed high schoolers to see what it would be like to major in music at Salisbury University. Following that, we were asked to perform it in the recording studio in Conway Hall to assist the advanced audio production class and even perform it for a masterclass for The Harlem Quartet. Unfortunately, Aubrie was unable to make the recital, so Sophia Merbaum was happy to perform in her place.

Adagio in G-Minor: This piece for organ and strings is a neo-Baroque composition commonly attributed to the 18th-century Venetian master Tomaso Albinoni, but it was actually composed by 20th-century musicologist Remo Giazotto based on the discovery of a manuscript fragment by Albinoni. According to Giazotto, he obtained the document shortly after the end of World War II from the Saxon State Library in Dresden, which had preserved most of its collection despite its buildings being destroyed in the bombing raids of February and March 1945 by the British and American Air Forces. Giazotto concluded that the manuscript fragment was a portion of a church sonata in G-Minor composed by Albinoni, possibly as part of his Op. 4 set, around 1708.

Cello Sonata No. 5: Stemming from a set of six cello sonatas, this sonata was written by Antonio Vivaldi between 1720 and 1730, all of which were published in Paris in 1740. The fifth cello sonata showcases the vast range of sound that a cello can produce. This sonata consists of four movements (Slow - Fast - Slow - Fast) in balanced binary form with repeats which feature many ornaments and intricate articulations common for the baroque era.

Romantica: Commissioned by Laurent Mariusse, Romantica is the second movement from Emmanuel Sejourne's 3 Movement work - SUITE. Sejourne is one of the world's most performed percussion music composers. This movement can be expected to be a 'marimba classic.'

Odessa: Originally written for Miroslav Dimov, Odessa is a barn burner piece for marimba. This piece challenges a player's technique as well as endurance while still being an enjoyable experience for the audience.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr. Carolyn Ringer Lepre, President, Salisbury University

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Dr. Maarten Pereboom, Dean, Fulton School of Liberal Arts

John Raley, Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Colleen Clark, Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Suzanna Mallow, Production Director, Department of Music, Theatre & Dance

Brooke Church, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Shawn Stone, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Jeff Hahn, Piano Technician, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

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Fulton School of Liberal Arts

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UPCOMING EVENTS

EAR Alliance

Wednesday, May 3
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

Jazz Ensemble

Thursday, May 4
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

Bobbi Biron Theatre Program Presents The Maids

May 4-7*
7:30 p.m. & 2 p.m.*
Fulton Hall, Black Box Theatre

University & Salisbury Chorales

Saturday, May 6
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

Salisbury Pops

Tuesday, May 9
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

Dalton Bosserman Recital

Friday, May 12
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall, Great Hall

Salisbury Symphony Orchestra

Summer Passport
Featuring John Kurokawa
Saturday, May 13
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

PRESTO

Tuesday, May 16
5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Holloway Hall, Great Hall

Salisbury Youth Orchestra

Thursday, May 18
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

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